This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims**

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for extending a database transaction to include at least one user-defined operation that accesses a computer resource by means of a Transaction Protocol describing a two-phase commit application programming interface (API) that operates between a transaction manager and a resource manager coupled to said computer resource for transaction processing distributed over computer systems, said method comprising:

registering said user-defined operation and Transaction Protocol Interfaces used by said user-defined operation with a database, wherein said user-defined operation enables a database operation to be extended with user-customizable features, and wherein said computer resource accessed by said user-defined operation is external to said database;

executing said database transaction, wherein said database transaction includes both said user-defined operation and one or more database operations;

enabling said database to operate as said Transaction Manager by means of said Transaction Protocol, wherein said Transaction Manager manages distributed transactions by coordinating decisions about commit or rollback of pending transactions and coordinating failure recovery;

accessing said resource manager by said database operating as said Transaction Manager; invoking said user-defined operation as part of said database transaction, wherein said user-defined operation is invoked by user-defined query code external to said database;

recording with said database that said user-defined operation has been invoked to enable triggering said database to invoke said Transaction Protocol Interfaces during commit and rollback;

executing said invoked and recorded user-defined operation while executing said database transaction;

accessing said computer resource in response to executing said invoked and recorded user-defined operation by said resource manager, thereby extending said database transaction;

in response to performing a commit of said database transaction, coordinating a two phase commit of said computer resource accessed by said user-defined operation by said

database invoking said Transaction Protocol Interfaces; and

in response to performing a rollback of said database transaction, including said userdefined operation in said rollback by said database invoking said Transaction Protocol Interfaces

to roll back said computer resource,

wherein results of said database transaction that includes both said user-defined operation

and said one or more database operations are atomic and are either completed with the commit or

rolled back, wherein said user-defined operation accesses said computer resource that is external

to said database.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said database transaction is a single-phase

transaction.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said database transaction is a two-phase

commit transaction.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein executing said database transaction comprises

an application program initiating said database transaction.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein executing said database transaction comprises

a transaction manager external to said database initiating said database transaction.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said recording is completed with

a Transaction Protocol Interface.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said invoking said user-defined operation is

completed with a data access module.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said resource manager manages a distributed

computer resource.

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- 9. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said resource manager manages a local computer resource.
- 10. (Currently Amended) A computer system for efficiently extending a database transaction to include at least one user-defined operation that accesses a computer resource by means of a Transaction Protocol describing a two-phase commit application programming interface (API) that operates between a transaction manager and a resource manager coupled to said computer resource for transaction processing distributed over computer systems, comprising:

said user-defined operation and Transaction Protocol Interfaces used by said user-defined operation that are registered with a database, wherein said user-defined operation enables a database operation to be extended with user-customizable features, and wherein said computer resource accessed by said user-defined operation is external to said database;

said database transaction that is executed, wherein said database transaction includes both said user-defined operation and one or more database operations, wherein said database operates as said Transaction Manager by means of said Transaction Protocol, wherein said Transaction Manager manages distributed transactions by coordinating decisions about commit or rollback of pending transactions and coordinating failure recovery, and that invokes said user-defined operation;

said resource manager that is accessed by said database operating as said Transaction Manager;

said database that records that said user-defined operation has been invoked to enable triggering said database to invoke said Transaction Protocol Interfaces during commit and rollback, wherein said user-defined operation is invoked by user-defined query code external to said database; and

said invoked and recorded user-defined operation that is executed while said database transaction is executed;

said computer resource that is accessed in response to executing said invoked and recorded user-defined operation by said resource manager while said database transaction is executed, thereby extending said database transaction;

in response to performing a commit of said database transaction, a two phase commit of said computer resource accessed by said user-defined operation is coordinated by said database invoking said Transaction Protocol Interfaces; and

in response to performing a rollback of said database transaction, said user-defined operation is included in said rollback by said database invoking said Transaction Protocol Interfaces to roll back said computer resource,

wherein results of said database transaction that includes both said user-defined operation and said one or more database operations are atomic and are either completed with the commit or rolled back, wherein said user-defined operation accesses said computer resource that is external to said database.

- 11. (Original) The computer system of Claim 10, wherein said database transaction is a single-phase transaction.
- 12. (Original) The computer system of Claim 10, wherein said database transaction is a two-phase commit transaction.
- 13. (Original) The computer system of Claim 10, wherein said database transaction is initiated by an application program.
- 14. (Original) The computer system of Claim 10, wherein said database transaction is initiated by a transaction manager external to said database.
- 15. (Previously Presented) The computer system of Claim 10, wherein said database recording is completed with a Transaction Protocol Interface.
- 16. (Original) The computer system of Claim 10, wherein said user-defined operation is invoked with a data access module.
- 17. (Original) The computer system of Claim 10, wherein said resource manager manages a distributed computer resource.

- 18. (Original) The computer system of Claim 10, wherein said resource manager manages a local computer resource.
- 19. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture comprising a computer program usable storage medium storing one or more instructions executable by said computer for extending a database transaction to include at least one user-defined operation that accesses a computer resource by means of a Transaction Protocol describing a two-phase commit application programming interface (API) that operates between a transaction manager and a resource manager coupled to said computer resource for transaction processing distributed over computer systems, wherein:

said computer usable instructions register said user-defined operation and Transaction Protocol Interfaces used by said user-defined operation with a database, wherein said user-defined operation enables a database operation to be extended with user-customizable features, and wherein said computer resource accessed by said user-defined operation is external to said database:

said computer usable instructions execute said database transaction, wherein said database transaction includes both said user-defined operation and one or more database operations;

said computer usable instructions enable said database to operate as said Transaction Manager by means of said Transaction Protocol, wherein said Transaction Manager manages distributed transactions by coordinating decisions about commit or rollback of pending transactions and coordinating failure recovery;

said computer usable instructions access said resource manager by said database; said computer usable instructions operate as said Transaction Manager;

said computer usable instructions invoke said user-defined operation as part of said database transaction, wherein said user-defined operation is invoked in response to said user-defined operation being invoked by user-defined query code external to said database;

said computer usable instructions record with said database that said user-defined operation has been invoked to enable triggering said database to invoke said Transaction Protocol Interfaces during commit and rollback;

said computer usable instructions execute said invoked and recorded user-defined operation while executing said database transaction;

said computer usable instructions access said computer resource in response to executing said invoked and recorded user-defined operation by said resource manager, thereby extending said database transaction:

in response to performing a commit of said database transaction, said computer usable instructions coordinate a two phase commit of said computer resource accessed by said user-defined operation by said database invoking said Transaction Protocol Interfaces; and

in response to performing a rollback of said transaction, said computer usable instructions include said user-defined operation in said rollback by said database invoking said Transaction Protocol Interfaces to roll back said computer resource,

wherein results of said database transaction that includes both said user-defined operation and said one or more database operations are atomic and are either completed with the commit or rolled back, wherein said user-defined operation accesses said computer resource that is external to said database.

- 20. (Original) The article of manufacture of Claim 19, wherein said database transaction is a single-phase transaction.
- 21. (Original) The article of manufacture of Claim 19, wherein said database transaction is a two-phase commit transaction.
- 22. (Original) The article of manufacture of Claim 19, wherein said computer usable instructions initiate said executing database transaction by an application program.
- 23. (Original) The article of manufacture of Claim 19, wherein said computer usable instructions initiate said executing database transaction by a transaction manager external to said database.
- 24. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of Claim 19, wherein said computer usable instructions complete said database recording with a Transaction Protocol Interface.

- 25. (Original) The article of manufacture of Claim 19, wherein said computer usable instructions invoke said user-defined operation with a data access module.
- 26. (Original) The article of manufacture of Claim 19, wherein said computer usable instructions manage a distributed computer resource by said resource manager.
- 27. (Original) The article of manufacture of Claim 19, wherein said computer usable instructions manage a local computer resource by said resource manager.
- 28. (Cancelled)
- 29. (Cancelled)
- 30. (Cancelled)